THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The workers of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi were on strike for about two months. Lockout was declared from 13.7.87.

(c) The causes of the strike are the multiplicity of unions, inter-union and intra-union rivalries and interference of outside elements.

(d) As a result of amicable settlement on 24.7.87, the lock-out has been lifted with immmediate effect.

Exploratory wells in the Cauvery Basin

50. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of exploratory wells and also delineation wells which are functioning in the Cauvery basin at present and what is their production as on date;

(b) the number of each type of these wells which are expected to start functioning this year

(c) what is the likely production of oil and natural gas from them in the current plan period;

(d) what is the amount sanctioned till date for the development of the Cauvery basin and out of it how much has been spent so far; and

(e) how much more is likely to be spent on the development of the Cauvery basin during the current plan period.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT); (a) to (c) Presently two wellg have been put on extended production testing and the combined average daily production of oil is about 36 tonnes. Four more wells are also available for such production testing. By the end of VII Plan, it is tentatively planned to produce 0.15 MT of oil from the basin.

(d) and (e) Since the basin is still under exploration stage, the question of an outlay for development does nnt arise.

LPG Connections in Rajasthan

51. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any survey has been made to assess the need for LPG connections in Rajasthan and if so, the district-wise demand therefor;

(b) what is the number of LPG connections sanctioned in each district so far; and

(c) what is the future programme to meet the demand for LPG connections particularly in districts with large concentration of tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT); (a) While no survey to assess the demand for LPG connections in Rajasthan has been made, LPG is being marketed in all the 27 districts of the state. New distributorships at existing and new locations in Rajasthan also are established by the Oil Industry on the basis of demand potential and economic viabiUty.

(b) The existing number of LPG connections in each district of Rajasthan is given in the statement annexed. (See below)

(c) LPG connections will continue to be released in Rajasthan under the annual customer enrolment programme of the Oil Industry keeping in view augmentation in the availability of LPG, bottling capacity and related infrastructure. A programme for